(c) whether it is also a fact that 150 plastic units are sick due to the above policy in Gujarat ; and

(d) what are the reasons for not allowing plastic bags for fertilizer and cement industries ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Permission for import of raw jute is available to all exporters of jute goods under the Advance Licensing Scheme for meeting their specific requirement of raw materials at Internationally competitive rates for fulfilment of their export commitments.

(b) In terms of the Reservation Orders issued by the Government under the provisions of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 all fertilizer factories are required to pack their entire urea production in jute bags only. In the case of the cement units the Reservation Orders stipulate that the unit located within 1200 kilometres from Calcutta should pack 70% of their production in jute bags and those located beyond 1200 kilometres should pack 65% of their production in jute bags.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government have given in terms of the Reservation Orders sufficient scope for the plastic bags sector to serve the interests of the cement and fertilizer industries by having a reasonably legitimate share of their production. In the case of the fertilizer sector while urea packaging is to be done in jute bags only all other varieties have been left free for being packed in any bag.

Demand for Pig Iron in Gujarat

1909. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 2663 small foundry units in Gujarat ;

(b) what is the actual demand for pig iron in Gujarat ;

(c) what was the quantity allotted to Gujarat during the last six months and what was the actual supply ; and

(d) what were the reasons for short supply of pig iron ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statewise demand is not assessed.

(c) Allotments are not made Statewise. Actual supplies of Pig Iron to the State of Gujarat by SAIL during six month period January—June, 1990 was 57,400 tonnes.

(d) Does not arise. Actual users may avail themselves of OGL import of Pig Iron.

Enquiry against officials working in the Ministry of Commerce and its undertakings

1910. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disciplinary proceedings being held against officials working in his Ministry and other offices/undertakings under his Ministry as on 31st July, 1990 with dates since when these have been pending, case-wise ;

(b) the number of cases out of them in which retired Government officials have been engaged as Enquiry Officers with dates of their engagement case-wise ;

(c) whether there have been cases in which proceedings are not being held on day-to-day basis but on abnormally long intervals on holidays only ;

(d) if so, the details of dates of hearing fixed by the Enquiry Officer till now in each case and the reasons for holding proceedings on holidays only ; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to check such abnormal delays caused in the finalisation of enquiries by the Enquiry Officers to avoid harassment to officials involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development of Beach Resorts

1911. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has been planning to develop beach resorts in some States ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether any such beach resorts are proposed to be developed in Orissa ; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Filling up of vacant posts of Customs Appraisers by Customs Clearing Agents

1912. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Customs Appraisers are promoted to Superintendent en mass specially at Bombay Customs thus creating vacuum at the level of Appraisers as a result of which Customs clearance is badly affected ;

(b) if so, whether there is a persistant demand from Customs Clearing Agents to fill these vacancies of Customs Appraisers to expedite the process of Customs clearance; and

(c) whether the Customs Clearance Agents who had gone on strike in the past are satisfied with the present system of clearance; if not, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) A large number of vacancies in Group 'A' cadre were filled by promoting Group 'B' officers, including Customs Appraisers to Group 'A' in January, 1990. The Custom House Agents' Association demanded filling up of consequential vacancies in Appraisers cadre. Most of such vacancies have since been filled. The Custom House Agents are reportedly satisfied with the position.

Stern Fiscal measures against Black Marketeers, Hoarders etc.

1913. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided in June this year to take stern fiscal measures, indluding stopping of bank credit against hoarders, black marketeers and profiteers; and